

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants submit this Amendment and Response to respond to the Office Action date October 31, 2005. Claims 39-42 and 44 have been amended, and Claims 1-10 have been canceled without intending to abandon or to dedicated to the public any patentable subject matter. Claims 11-34 were canceled in a previous response. Furthermore, Claims 45-50 have been added. Accordingly, Claims 35-50 are now pending. As set out more fully below, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejects Claims 39-42 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In the amendments set forth above, Claims 39-42 have been amended to eliminate aspects of those claims found to be indefinite. Applicants note that the amendments to Claims 39-42 are not narrowing. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, at page 11, lines 11-16 and page 12, lines 1-11. In view of the amendments to Claims 39-42, it is submitted that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,580,793 to Dunn et al. Claims 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunn et al. Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunn et al. in view of Japanese Patent No. 05268121 to Toshiyuki. Finally, Claims 6 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunn et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. H1,885 to Pruett et al and further in view of Admitted Prior Art. In the

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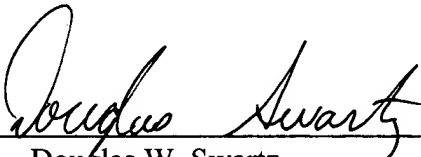
amendments set forth above, Claims 1-10 have been canceled without prejudice in order to expedite allowance of other claims in the current application.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that Claims 35-44 are allowable. As noted above, Claims 39-42 have been amended to remove language found to be indefinite.

Based upon the foregoing, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and such disposition is respectfully requested. In the event that a telephone conversation would further prosecution and/or expedite allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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